

CPC Committee Minutes 3-11-2014

Rockport Police Station 7:00 PM

Members Present: Ruth George (Chair), Paul Sena, Maryann Lash, Phil Crotty, Julie McMahon, Bethany Brosnan, Mel Michaels, Stephen DeMarco, Ed Hand

Ruth George opens meeting with committee introductions.

Application Reviews:

Robert Liebow, Superintendent of Schools to discuss the Preservation of Community Tennis Courts which is located at the Rockport Public School Complex. They are seeking \$33,394 from the CPC. Mr. Liebow stated that there is a concern that the surface could be hazardous.

There are no letters of support

It would take approximately 2 weeks to complete

Estimate from Sport Tech

There is no capital improvement money

Maintenance will be the schools responsibility

Ed Hand questioned the quote/estimate

Phil Crotty asked if the school had a tennis team and the answer was no they do not however the physical education department does use it as well as adults.

Mel Michaels mentioned that he should try to get 3 estimates and Mr. Liebow was not sure if that had happened in the past. Mel Michaels told him to submit a letter

Steve DeMarco asked what the next steps would be if funded – It was mentioned that the work would take place spring/summer

Mel Michaels asked how long the new surface would last and it was stated that it should last approximately 10-15 years

Three (3) things needed: Last time it was complete

- 3 bids

- Contingency plan

- Try to get letters of support

Debbie Whitting and David Delaney to discuss the Old Garden Beach Landing Fence Replacement.

They are seeking \$7,000 from the CPC

They want to take out temporary fencing that is there and that they have 2 bids. They are trying to obtain Rockport Granite which is hard to come by.

The labor will be done by the association

Phil Crotty stated that this is a great organization in which he wanted the record to reflect that he is a member.

It was also mentioned that the access to the beach is hard and that there is a plan to construct a plank in which they are going to get bids on. The association stated that they are going to fund this project themselves.

Ed Hand inquired if they were using ¾ inch chain and the response was yes

Julie McMahon inquired about erosion and the placement of the posts

Mel Michael asked if the project could wait and the Association would prefer that it did not.

Paul Sena advised the association that they should contact Philip Rand out of Newton

Paul Bryant asked how many posts

Dan Aparo representing the Rockport Housing Partnership, Inc. is seeking \$400,000 from the CPC

Mr. Aparo stated that the organization has changed with some of the members retiring

Phil Crotty inquired as to how many people would \$400,000 assist and Mr. Aparo stated that it could help 1 family or it could potentially provide 2 Units

Ed Hand asked you buy property and sell it at a loss?

Steve DeMarco asked if they would be coming back for more funding and if they had other funding sources – Answer: no they have no other sources of funding and YES, they are planning to come back for more funds

Mel Michaels to consider Administrative expenses such as permits; can you buy land; they are not limited to just buying a house; Grants?? Have you looked into grants – Mr. Aparo stated that they had not – Would this be available to Rockport residents or would they get preference and Mr. Aparo stated that no they would not because they receive federal funding. Mel Michaels also talked about grant agreements and if it expires in which he will look into

Ruth George when you sell it will it be the lottery or open market –Mr. Aparo had not looked into that – Ruth George also stated that there could be elderly residents in town who might be interested in this and is there any town owned property that could be utilized.

Maryann Lash representing the Conservation Commission presented seeing \$200,000 from the CPC

This would be utilized in the purchase of land in which there are several parcels in which they are looking into. It was also mentioned that the tax laws changed December 2013 and that you can no longer have a break on your taxes if you have woodland, unbuildable or potentially buildable property. Con Comm can pay up to 110% of assessed value.

Phil Crotty asked If CPC has to give Con Com a minimum amount of funding each year

Ed Hand asked what lands come under the change

Steve DeMarco inquired as to the balance in the trust fund which is \$385,730

Ruth George asked how much money has the CPS given in total to Con Com.

Julie McMahon suggested that they include the Watershed Parcel Study in addition to the Open Space Plan as they prioritize land for open space acquisition. She also suggested the CPC come up with a protocol for committees and organizations (Con Com., DPW, Housing Partnership, etc) for reporting back to the CPC on pending and completed property acquisitions made using CPC funds.”)

Ted Tarr stated that there is more and more land available and he talked about the trails in Rockport and how they go over private property

Paul Bryant talked about buildable, non-buildable or potentially buildable and it is the owners responsibility to prove it is not buildable

MINUTES: Steve DeMarco made a motion to accept the February minutes and Mel Michaels 2nd.

Vote taken and approved

Ruth George checked on the minutes and they need to be done in draft and they can be sent around to committee members in draft form

TREASURERS REPORT

No New Numbers; Bills are not getting paid as expeditiously because the town accountant retired; The CPC should get back \$60,405 and it will go back into the funds in which it came; Scout Hall and Old Farm will be closed out; All members have to sign 2 agreements for Old Farm property

April 5th is the Spring town meeting and the Straightsmouth project. CPC members are asked to be present to meet at 8:30am

Late Applications: The Town Administrator stated that it is not a good idea to accept late applications because we do not have a policy at this time

RULES FOR PROCESSING INVOICES: Phil Crotty made a motion to accept the rule and MaryAnn Rash seconded the motion in which all committee members approved

Any Other New Business: Paul Bryant asked about deadlines and funding

April 8th is our next meeting and Rockport Art Association, Millbrook Meadow, Baptist Church and if Straightsmouth does not pass at town meeting they will also be asked to present

Ed Hand made a motion to adjourn and Phil Crotty seconded the motion

